



This report represents an ongoing effort by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to bring the opinions and concerns of Wisconsin hunters and landowners to the chronic wasting disease management decision-making table. Its purpose is to enlighten resource managers so that they can make informed recommendations about strategies designed to eradicate the disease from Wisconsin's deer herd. Since chronic wasting disease was discovered in Wisconsin in 2002, the Department has conducted five studies focused on the public's response to the disease and its management. In addition to the current study, these include: "Chronic Wasting Disease in Wisconsin and the 2002 Hunting Season: Gun Deer Hunters' First Response", "Gun Deer Hunting in Wisconsin and the 2003 Season", "Landowner Response to Chronic Wasting Disease in the Sparks Areas of Hollandale and Orion Township" (in progress), and "Landowner Response to Chronic Wasting Disease and its Management in Wisconsin's Southeast Disease Eradication Zone" (in progress). Furthermore, the Department has collaborated with and has financially supported human dimensions research pertaining to chronic wasting disease conducted by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. By collectively applying this social information, these studies encourage public participation and improve resource managers' abilities to make informed decisions.

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